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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 NEW DELHI 001521

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [ENRG](#) [EAID](#) [MASS](#) [IN](#) [AF](#) [IR](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: KARZAI IN NEW DELHI: FUNDING FOR PUL-I-KHUMRI LEADS INDIA'S COMMITMENTS

REF: NEW DELHI 395

Classified By: Political Counselor Geoff Pyatt. Reasons 1.4 (B, D)

11. (C) Summary: Afghan President Hamid Karzai's visit to New Delhi and Indian Foreign Minister Natwar Singh's prior trip to Kabul were ""in
12. (C) MEA Joint Secretary Arun Singh was ecstatic about Karzai's successful February 23-25 visit to New Delhi, as well as the visit by FM  
Completion of Pul-i-Khumri Power Line Promised  
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13. (C) Singh explained that India will fully fund and execute the 200 km mountainous segment of the Pul-i-Khumri to Kabul power transmissic
14. (C) According to Singh, India has completed a warehouse project in Kandahar for dry goods and produce and now plans an expansion of cap:  
What Afghanistan Needs Next  
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15. (C) Reviewing potential areas for future assistance, Singh noted that Afghanistan has a shortage of skilled laborers, particularly in cc
16. (C) Asked about military assistance to the ANA, including parts for the Army's Soviet-origin equipment, Singh agreed that GOI-USG coordi  
With this step accomplished, the Joint Secretary added, the time had come for the US to review and consolidate requests for assistance to the  
Transit of Goods and Gas  
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17. (C) Singh emphasized that India supports Afghanistan's inclusion in the SAARC regional organization. Afghanistan has already broached t
18. (C) Singh emphasized that India now has no political objections to gas pipeline links from either Turkmenistan (via Afghanistan) or Irar  
Iranian aspects of the Indo-Afghan relation  
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19. (C) Reflecting on the recent visit by Iranian Foreign Minister Kharrazi, Singh stated that the Iranian Foreign Office and establishment  
In these cases, India told the Iranians to discuss their complaints with the Afghans, Singh stated.  
Comment  
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110. (C) The commitment of USD 500 million in development assistance to Afghanistan is a major step for India, establishing this as the GOI'  
MULFORD